

Modern Languages Standards & Benchmarks

2) ORAL EXPRESSION

Students will express themselves orally, with coherence, and in a broad range of situations.

KINDERGARTEN – GRADE 1

Beginning	Intermediate	Advanced
Repeat words spoken by the teacher or from a recording	Repeat words spoken by the teacher or from a recording	
Get meaning across with gestures and words	Get meaning across with gestures and words	
Answer simple questions using single words	Answer simple questions using single words	
	Recite short sentences and phrases from memory	
	Take part in a short conversation of 2-3 sentences	
	Use language to express a need or to ask a question	
	Begin to apply a few basic grammar rules when speaking	

GRADE 2 – GRADE 3

Beginning	Intermediate	Advanced
Repeat words spoken by the teacher or from a recording	Repeat words spoken by the teacher or from a recording	Repeat words spoken by the teacher or from the tape recorder
Get meaning across with gestures and words	Get meaning across with gestures and words	Get meaning across with gestures and words
Answer simple questions using single words	Answer simple questions using single words	Answer simple questions using single words
Recite short sentences and phrases from memory	Recite short sentences and phrases from memory	Say short sentences and phrases from memory
Recite dialogues and sing songs	Recite dialogues and sing songs	Recite dialogues and sing songs
Apply a few basic grammar rules when speaking	Take part in a short conversation of 2-3 sentences	Take part in a short conversation of 2-3 sentences
Use language to express needs or to ask a question	Use language to express needs or to ask a question	Use language to express needs or to ask questions
	Say 3-4 sentences about oneself	Say 3-4 sentences about oneself
	Apply a few basic grammar rules when speaking	Apply basic grammar rules when speaking
		Apply previously learned phrases to create new sentences
		Take part in a conversation of 3-4 sentences
		Start and develop a conversation, asking questions and giving opinions

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GRADE 4 – GRADE 5

Beginning	Intermediate	Advanced
Repeat words spoken by the teacher or from a recording	Repeat words spoken by the teacher or from a recording	Repeat words spoken by the teacher or on the tape recorder
Get meaning across with gestures and words	Get meaning across with gestures and words	Get meaning across with gestures and words
Answer simple questions using single words	Answer simple questions using single words	Answer simple questions using single words
Recite short sentences and phrases from memory	Recite short sentences and phrases from memory	Recite short sentences and phrases from memory
Recite dialogues and sing songs from memory	Recite dialogues and sing songs from memory	Recite dialogues and sing songs from memory
Use language to express needs and ask questions	Use language to express a need or to ask a question	Use language to express a need or to ask a question memory
Apply a few basic grammar rules when speaking	Apply basic grammar rules when speaking	Apply basic grammar rules when speaking
	Take part in a short conversation of 2-3 sentences	Take part in a short conversation of 2-3 sentences
	Say 3-4 sentences about oneself	Say 3-4 sentences about oneself
		Apply previously learned phrases to create new sentences
		Take part in a conversation of 3-4 sentences
		Initiate and develop a conversation, asking questions and giving opinions
		Speak about past or future events

GRADE 6 – GRADE 8

Beginning	Intermediate	Advanced
Ask and answer questions in areas of immediate interest or very familiar topics, such as personal identity, family relationships, homes, professions or leisure pastimes	Deal with most situations to arise while travelling in an area where the target language is spoken	Communicate clearly and effectively in a wide range of situations
Communicate in a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar topics	Enter unprepared into a conversation on topics that are familiar, of personal interest, or pertinent to everyday life such as family, travel, hobbies or current events	Express oneself fluently and spontaneously without much searching for expressions
Be comfortable in very short social exchanges	Connect phrases in a simple way to describe experiences and events	Formulate ideas and opinions with precision
	Narrate a story or relate the plot of a book or film and describe one's own reactions to the story	Take part in any kind of conversation and be familiar with idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms
	Take an active part in discussions in familiar contexts	Give a clear presentation on a subject of personal interest
	Present clear, detailed descriptions of more complex subjects related to the student's interests	
	Apply basic grammar rules when speaking	

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GRADE 9 – GRADE 10

Beginning	Intermediate	Advanced
Interact in a simple way, provided that the interlocutor is prepared to rephrase things, speak more slowly, and help to reformulate what is trying to be said	Initiate, sustain, and close a simple, face-to-face conversation on topics that are familiar or of personal interest, such as family, travel, hobbies or current events	Communicate clearly and effectively in a wide range of situations
Ask and answer questions in areas of immediate need or on very familiar topics	Express and respond to feelings such as surprise, happiness, sadness, interest and indifference	Express themselves spontaneously in an animated conversation with native speakers, demonstrating a degree of fluency
Use simple phrases to describe where people live	Connect phrases in a simple way to describe experiences and events	Use the language effectively and with some accuracy to discuss a wide range of general, professional or academic topics
Communicate in a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar topics	Relate a straightforward narrative or description as a linear sequence of events (plot of a book, film, etc.) with some fluency	Formulate ideas and opinions clearly and with precision
Handle very short social exchanges, even if the student lacks the comprehension skills to sustain a conversation on his own	Take an active part in discussions in familiar contexts	Give a clearly developed presentation on a subject of personal or academic interest
Use a series of phrases to describe in simple terms family members and their relationships, living conditions, educational backgrounds and social situations	Present clear, detailed descriptions of more complex subjects related to the student's interests	

GRADE 11 – GRADE 12

Beginning	Intermediate	Advanced
Convey factual information and respond appropriately in a discussion	Communicate clearly and effectively in a wide range of situations	Communicate clearly, fluently and effectively in a wide range of situations
Use some colloquial language competently in a social exchange	Express ideas with clarity and fluency	Use the oral forms of the language accurately, in a range of styles and situations
Convey with reasonable clarity, information and attitudes in a structured presentation on a topic	Use a wide range of vocabulary and grammatical structures	Use a register and style appropriate to the situation
Respond with some sensitivity to social conventions	Contribute spontaneously to a conversation, in a register and style appropriate to the social and cultural context	Express ideas with clarity and fluency
		Structure arguments and support them with relevant examples
		Engage in a critical examination of texts in different forms, styles, techniques and registers

